



September 20, 2012

The [Office for Undergraduate Research](#) newsletter is published every other week to share news about undergraduate research at UNC, relevant events, accomplishments of our students and faculty, and more. For additional information, please visit our website at [www.unc.edu/depts/our](http://www.unc.edu/depts/our) or email us at [our@unc.edu](mailto:our@unc.edu).

### Announcements and OUR News

#### OUR Blog:

- [Carolina alum Marissa Heyl discusses how her SURF project led to a new socially conscious entrepreneurial venture](#)
- Participate in the first ever OUR [laptop sticker contest](#).

#### GRC Blog:

- [GRC Zachary Wilkins reflects on his own research path](#)

#### OUR People:

- [Meet a Tar Heel, Emma Johnson](#): The [Database of Research Opportunities](#) helped this student researcher find her path.
- Postdoctoral Scholars, are you mentoring an undergraduate? Apply for an [Excellence in Mentoring Award](#) by September 30.

#### OUR Events:

- Our [Fall 2012 Workshop Series](#) continues: Research Methodology Blitz, and Writing a Grant Proposal.
- Check out these pictures from our [2012 Fall Reception](#).

#### Other Events and News:

- [Information Session: Applying to graduate programs in English?](#)
- [Information Session: Getting Involved in Undergraduate Research in Biology](#)
- Apply to present at the [State of North Carolina Undergraduate Research and Creativity Symposium](#): Deadline October 22, 2012.

### Fall 2012 Workshop Series:

#### Research Methodology: Oral History

Cosponsored by the Southern Oral History Program

Tuesday, October 9, 2012; 5:00-6:30 p.m.; Gardner 308

Would you like to enrich your service work? Are you using or conducting interviews for a thesis? Do you hope to deepen your understanding of a local community? Then come learn about the art of oral



Dr. Hilary Lithgow presents at the September Taking the First Steps workshop.

history, a research method focused on uncovering and interpreting narratives of our past. Grounded in active listening to voices famous and unheard, oral history has been critical to the national understanding of the Civil Rights movement and is vital to projects of local community development. Hear from undergraduate and graduate students who have conducted oral history research. Discover oral history archives available to you. Begin thinking of a project of your own! Space is limited, so you must *RSVP* to Dr. Donna Bickford at [dbickford@unc.edu](mailto:dbickford@unc.edu).

### **Research Methodology: Primary Sources and Archival Research**

Cosponsored by the R. B. House Undergraduate Library and Wilson Library  
*Wednesday, October 10, 2012; 5:00-6:30 p.m.; Pleasants Room, Wilson Library*

When we “go to the source,” where do we go? Within Wilson Library objects of humanist inquiry and the raw materials for writing history can be found. This workshop will introduce you to a broad range of materials from recent to ancient history and begin to examine how they might be used to answer the research questions of today. You will learn to understand what is meant by “primary sources” and about approaches and resources for your research projects. Space is limited, so you must *RSVP* to Dr. Donna Bickford at [dbickford@unc.edu](mailto:dbickford@unc.edu).

### **Research Methodology: Community-Based Research**

Cosponsored by the Carolina Center for Public Service  
*Thursday, October 11, 2012; 5:00-6:30 p.m.; Graham Memorial 039*

Do you plan to conduct research during your undergraduate career here at Carolina? Are you interested in investigating a community need through that research? In this interactive workshop, Professor Beth Moracco will lead a discussion about what is involved in doing research with human subjects, the principles and methodologies of community-based and community-based participatory research, and the kinds of research questions for which these methodologies would be appropriate. Come ready to talk about your interests and to brainstorm how to turn them into undergraduate research projects. Space is limited, so you must *RSVP* to [service\\_scholars@unc.edu](mailto:service_scholars@unc.edu). Note: This workshop will count as a skills training for the Buckley Public Service Scholars program.

### **Writing a Grant Proposal**

Cosponsored by the Writing Center and Campus Y  
*Wednesday, November 14, 2012; 5:00-6:30 p.m.; SASB-North Room 0127*

Are you working on a funding proposal or considering submitting an abstract to a conference? Do you want to learn how to write a compelling grant and how to describe your research most effectively? Writing Center Director Kim Abels will help you think about framing your project for specific audiences and discuss the multiple strategies and approaches you might consider. Space is limited, so you must *RSVP* to Dr. Donna Bickford at [dbickford@unc.edu](mailto:dbickford@unc.edu).

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The OUR 2012 Fall Reception recognized summer student researchers and their faculty and graduate student mentors.



Photo credit: Mary Lide Parker

L: Director Pat Pukkila recognizes the Graduate Student Mentor Award winners.

R: Dr. Pukkila displays the OUR laptop sticker during her remarks.

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Wednesday, September 26 from 5:30-6:30 PM in Greenlaw 223 (Donovan Lounge)

**Information session on applying to M.A. and Ph.D. programs in English** & hands-on workshop on writing the Statement of Purpose. Wondering about graduate school in the humanities? Struggling to write your statement of purpose? Help is here!

Panelists and Workshop leaders:

- Florence Dore, Associate Professor of English
- Eliza Richards, Associate Professor of English
- Hilary Lithgow, Lecturer & Advisor in English
- Lee Norton, English graduate student in the DOECL

**PLEASE NOTE:** Students who wish to participate in the workshop part of the session should bring four or five hard copies of their statements

Have questions or want to be added to the mailing list for similar departmental events? Please contact Hilary Lithgow at [lithgow@email.unc.edu](mailto:lithgow@email.unc.edu)

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**Information Session: Getting Involved in Undergraduate Research in Biology**

Wednesday, Sept 19, 2012

6-7:30 PM in Coker 201

Dr. Gidi Shemer will help you discover the research opportunities inside and outside the [Biology Department](#).

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The Office for Undergraduate Research

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**Where will your curiosity lead you?**